



LEEC

LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION COMMISSION

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A Weekly Compilation of Environmental Education News from Across Louisiana

LEEC NEWS

REMINDER: REGISTRATION OPEN FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION STATE SYMPOSIUM—LEEC SEEKS PRESENTERS, EXHIBITORS

Registration is now open for the 2015 Louisiana Environmental Education State Symposium, to be held February 27-28, 2015 at the Baton Rouge Marriott. The registration form can be found at the LEEC symposium site, <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/symposium-registration>.

Educators who wish to present a session at the 2015 Environmental Education State Symposium, please visit our online proposal form at <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/2015-environmental-education-state-symposium-presenter-proposal-form>.

Exhibitors are invited to view and download the exhibitors letter and Microsoft Word application form on the LEEC website. The exhibitor information letter is [here](#) and the application form is [here](#). Exhibitors wishing to pay by check may do so immediately by filling out the form and mailing it to the address provided. Exhibitors wishing to pay by credit card may contact Thomas Gresham at tgresham@wlf.la.gov for further instructions.

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

PUBLIC INPUT REQUESTED FOR RESTORE ACT DRAFT NOAA SCIENCE PLAN

NOAA recently released for public comment the draft science plan for the [NOAA RESTORE Act Science Program](#), which supports research in the Gulf of Mexico on long-term sustainability of the ecosystem and its fisheries. The [draft plan](#) outlines 10 long-term research priorities to guide how the program will invest its funds and explains how these priorities were determined. The program will review the comments received and anticipates releasing a final version of the science plan early next year.

Anyone may submit comments, including individuals and organizations with a particular interest in Gulf of Mexico ecosystem restoration and related science, observations, monitoring and technology, and the impact this program will have on the region. Comments on the draft science plan can be submitted via email to no-aarestorescience@noaa.gov, or by mail to Becky Allee at NOAA Office for Coastal Management, Gulf of Mexico Division, Bldg. 1100, Room 232, Stennis Space Center, MS 39529. All comments are due no later than December 15.

EPA FINALIZES CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PLANS

EPA recently released the final versions of its agency-wide [Climate Change Adaptation Plan](#) and the 17 Climate Change Adaptation Implementation Plans produced by the Program and Regional Offices. These final versions were revised from earlier drafts following public comment periods.

All plans, including the Office of Water Climate Change Adaptation Implementation Plan can be found at <http://epa.gov/climatechange/impacts-adaptation/fed-programs/Final-EPA-Adaptation-plans.html>.

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

LOUISIANA MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM

The Louisiana Master Naturalist program, <http://www.louisianamasternaturalist.org/>, offers citizens the opportunity to learn about the state's abundant natural resources, environment and ecosystems. The program's sponsoring agency is the LSU Agcenter.

Current requirements to become certified as a Louisiana Master Naturalist include completing training sessions (an average of 46-58 hours), 20 hours of volunteer service, and 8 hours of advanced training followed by a satisfactory score on an exit exam. Maintaining certification requires annual coursework and volunteer efforts, and paying yearly dues.

There are currently three chapters of the LMNP: for the Acadiana Chapter, contact Stacey Scarce, sscarce@lafayettela.gov; in the New Orleans area, contact Bob Thomas, rathomas48@gmail.com ; and for the

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

PUBLIC LANDS EVERY DAY EVENT GRANTS

Funded by Toyota, the National Environmental Education Program Foundation offers Every Day Event Grants to public land organizations or Friends Groups to engage their communities on public land sites.

These grants are available to non-profit groups, specifically community-based nonprofit organizations whose mission is focused on serving a public land site in the United States, to hold educational events on public lands.

The application window opened November 18 and will close December 18. Interested parties should visit <http://publiclandseveryday.org/grants/every-day-event-grants-0>

LAGNIAPPE

INVASIVE SPECIES, FRACKING DEBATE LESSONS FREE ON GREEN TEACHER WEBSITE

A new lesson for grades 6-12 is aimed at getting students to understand the impact of invasive species. Originally published in the Fall 2014 issue of *Green Teacher* magazine, the lesson is available online at <http://greenteacher.com/around-the-world-the-invasive-species-challenge/>.

Another lesson allows students to explore the drawbacks and benefits of hydraulic fracturing through research and debate. You can find it at <http://greenteacher.com/fracking-unlocking-the-great-debate/>.

ONENOA SCIENCE SEMINARS

NOAA provides access to several in-depth online seminars every month. They are free of charge and led by experts on climate science.

To see a schedule of upcoming seminars, visit <http://www.nodc.noaa.gov/seminars/index.html>.

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